

2025

ELECTIVE ENGLISH

Full Marks : 100

Pass Marks : 33

Time: Three Hours

Read the directions given for each question carefully.

Answer the questions in your own words as far as practicable.

The figures in the right margin indicate full marks for the questions.

SECTION – A

(POETRY)

1. *Explain either of the following extract with reference to the context :* 8

(a) Sophocles long ago

Heard it on the Aegean, and it brought

Into his mind the turbid ebb and flow

Of human misery;

Or

(b) The winter evening settles down

With smell of steaks in passageways.

Six O'clock.

The burnt-out ends of smoky days.

P.T.O.

2. Answer the following question in about 100 words :

- (a) In the poem 'Death, Be Not Proud', John Donne defies the mighty and dreadful Death. Give a critical analysis of Donne's treatment of Death. 6

Or

- (b) "'Night of the Scorpion' can be interpreted in the context of Indian Culture, which often builds its foundation on faith and superstition". Examine the statement. 6

3. Answer the following question in about 60 words :

- (a) The poem "'Thy Presence' reflects the poet's yearning to merge with the divine". Bring out the essence of the spiritual union that the poet expresses in his poem. 4

Or

- (b) "A robin redbreast in a cage 4

Puts all heaven in a rage".

Give a persuasive explanation of the meaning of the given couplet.

4. Answer any five from the following questions in about 40 words each :

- (a) "His happy good-night air 2

Some blessed hope, whereof he knew,

And I was unaware".

Why does Thomas Hardy say so?

- (b) What does the poet (Prayer Before Birth) address through the perspective of an inborn child? 2

- (c) 'For skies of couple-colour as a brinded cow'.
What is being expressed by the poet in the given line? 2
- (d) How is W.B. Yeats' love different from those who also loved his beloved? 2
- (e) 'My father, sceptic, rationalist, trying every curse and blessings'.
Explain. 2
- (f) "My mother only said :
Thank God the scorpion picked on me
and spared my children".
What does the given extract show? 2

Choose the correct one from the options to complete the key :

5. (a) The word 'darkling' means in darkness, or becoming dark. But in the poem 'The Darkling Thrush', the bird 'thrush' is a symbol of— 1
- (A) despair
(B) hope
(C) loneliness
(D) suffering
- (b) 'Before even being born, the child asks for forgiveness for _____ that the world is going to make the speaker commit'. 1
- (A) the thoughts
(B) the actions
(C) the sins
(D) the treason

SECTION – B

(PROSE)

6. Answer the following question in about 100 words :

- (a) “We could not see most of these birds, we could only hear them as a rule, as there were no trees in our little yard”.

Give your comment on the relation between the birds and trees that Jawaharlal Nehru points out. 6

Or

- (b) “Noah would have found peace of mind in the Thar Desert. Nobody there has any fear of a flood”.

Explain the conditions of the Thar Desert. Why does the author make such a remark? 6

7. Answer the following question in about 60 words :

- (a) “A strange picture we make on our way to our Chimaeras, ceaselessly marching, grudging ourselves the time for rest”.

Why does Stevenson make such a remark in the conclusive para of his essay? 4

Or

- (b) Give a description of Cave No. 33. 4

8. Answer the following question in about 50 words :

- (a) Why does Nehru remember the 24th of December, 1932? 3

Or

- (b) Why does Don Moraes compare the villagers to “ the survivors of a shipwreck”? 3

9. *Answer any five of the following questions in about 40 words each :*
- (a) Why is Cave No. 10 known as the Vishvakarma Cave? 2
- (b) 'Reckless courage triumphed'.
What does Nehru mean by "Reckless Courage"?. 2
- (c) What does R.L. Stevenson say about 'aspiration'? 2
- (d) The people coming from Jodhpur are compared to "refugees fleeing from an explosion or an occupation.....".
Why does Dom Moraes compare so? 2
- (e) "but to keep in love is also a business of some importance".
Why does R.L. Stevenson say thus in relation with marriage? 2
- (f) Why are the first few Buddhist cave known as Dhedavda caves? 2
10. *In the following, each question/statement is followed by four options and of which you are to choose the correct/most suitable one as your answer and then rewrite it :*
- (a) Whom did Nehru treat as 'his old freinds' in Dehra Dun Goal? 1
- (i) wasps and hornets
- (ii) the little kitten that belongs to a goal official
- (iii) little tufts of grass and odd bits of stone
- (iv) the pair of mynahs that nested over his cell door
- (b) The desert could only recover if it were fed by canals but the Government of India do not take up such a project because – 1
- (i) it is useless to take up to such a barren land
- (ii) it will be an immense and expensive task
- (iii) the shifting desert wind and sand dunes will spoil them
- (iv) the villagers are impermanent and do not settle at one place

SECTION – C
(A SHORT NOVEL)

11. *Answer the following question in about 100 words :*

- (a) Describe how the murder of Sir Danvers Carew affected Jekyll's character. 6

Or

- (b) Trace the gradual surrender of Dr. Jekyll to Mr. Hyde. 6

12. *Answer the following question in about 60 words :*

- (a) Why was Lanyon surprised when he received a registered letter from Dr. Jekyll? 4

Or

- (b) I shall be Mr. Seek :

Why did Utterson begin to seek the man? 4

13. *Answer any three from the following questions in about 50 words each :*

- (a) Why did Mr. Utterson feel that a new life began for Dr. Jekyll? 3

- (b) "..... and it is the belief of my heart that there was murder done".

Why did Poole say thus to Mr. Utterson? 3

- (c) Why did the blood of two gentlemen freeze at the sight of Dr. Jekyll? 3

- (d) Explain the significance of the two provisions of Dr. Jekyll's first will? 3

14. *Answer any two of the following questions in about 40 words each :*

- (a) Why did Henry Jekyll open an account at another bank in the name of Edward Hyde? 2

- (b) Why were Utterson and Poole ready to break open the laboratory door? 2

- (c) Why was Dr. Jekyll tempted to use transcendental medicine? 2

15. *In the following, each question is followed by four options. Choose the correct/ best one as your answer.*

(a) "God forgive us, God forgive us!"

1

Mr. Utterson prayed so because –

- (i) Sir Danvers Carew's death was horrifying
- (ii) he had a glimpse of Mr. Hyde's face and felt horror
- (iii) he was told that the man trampled calmly over the child's body and left her screaming
- (iv) he saw Dr. Jekyll transformed to Mr. Hyde

(b) Dr. Henry Jekyll made appeal to Dr. Lanyon in his letter to receive a messenger of his at midnight. Dr. Lanyon loaded the old revolver. 1

- (i) He was convinced that he was dealing with a case of cerebral disease.
- (ii) He knew that Dr. Jekyll was insane and had suspicion over the visitor.
- (iii) He knew the person would be Mr. Hyde and wanted to kill to save Dr. Jekyll.
- (iv) As he knew a lot about Dr. Jekyll's secrets that Lanyon suspected threat to his life.

SECTION – D

(GRAMMAR AND PHONOLOGY)

16. *Frame sentence using any four of the idiomatic phrases :*

1×4=4

- (a) Apple pie order
- (b) By hook or by crook
- (c) Clip one's wings
- (d) Dead broke
- (e) Feather in one's cap

17. Rewrite the following sentences as directed :
- (a) She said to me, " I was thinking of helping him but changed her mind later on. (Change into Indirect speech) 1
- (b) She is the most successful teacher in our school. (Change into comparative). 1
18. Say true or false :
- (a) The distinctive feature of the phonemes is that they contrast with each other. 1
- (b) When classified according to the manner of articulation, we have 7 plosives. 1
- (c) /h/ is a voiceless, glottal fricative. 1
19. Identify the short and the long vowels in the following words :
- (a) ask 1
- (b) axe 1
20. Answer the following questions in one sentence each :
- (a) How many consonants sounds are there in the English language? 1
- (b) What is a "minimal pair"? 1
- (c) In what terms are vowels and consonants defined in phonetics? 1
21. Choose the correct/suitable one from the four alternatives that follow each given sentence to complete the sentence and rewrite as your answer :
- (a) He decided to enter _____ a new course of life. 1
- (i) into (ii) upon
- (iii) for (iv) in
- (b) He goes every Sunday to Guwahati with a view _____ raw material. 1
- (i) to by (ii) of buying
- (iii) to buying (iv) for buying

(c) Deepak _____ Shanti for five years by then. 1

(i) was married to (ii) has been married to

(iii) married to (iv) had been married to

(d) *Choose the passive form of the sentence given in Active Voice from the alternatives given :* 1

They will demolish the entire block.

(i) The entire block is being demolish.

(ii) The entire block will be demolished by them.

(iii) The entire block will be demolishing by them.

(iv) The entire block would be demolished by them.

22. *Choose the correct answer from the alternatives that follow each statement and rewrite the complete statement as your answer :*

(a) In the production of sounds, when the lower lip moves closer to the upper teeth the resulting sound is called _____. 1

(i) a labial consonant (ii) a bilabial consonant

(iii) a labiodental consonant (iv) a dental consonant

(b) A complete closure of the vocal organs followed by a slow release happens when we produce _____. 1

(i) plosives (ii) trills

(iii) fricatives (iv) affricates